

SUMMARY OF CAUCUS DISCUSSION AND MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON, MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2025.

The Council of the City of Strongsville met in the Caucus Room at the Mike Kalinich Sr. City Council Chamber, 18688 Royalton Road, on **Monday, June 16, 2025, at 6:45 p.m.**

Present: Council Members: Gordon C. Short, James E. Carbone, James A. Kaminski, Kelly A. Kosek, Thomas M. Clark, and Brian M. Spring. **Also Present:** Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Law Director Neal Jamison, and Finance Director Eric Dean.

Council President Gordon C. Short, called the caucus to order at 6:50 p.m.

Absent: Councilwoman Annmarie P. Roff.

The following Council Committees met to review legislation on the agenda:

Public Service & Conservation Committee:

Mr. Short - First, we have Public Service and Conservation Committee. Ms. Roff will not be in attendance tonight, so I will take that on her behalf. There is one ordinance tonight. Ordinance No. 2025-067; this is just to authorize the sale of obsolete property no longer needed by the city...by the city's service department. The recommendation is to suspend and adopt. That will be by the sale of internet auction. Are there any questions on that?

(No questions)

Public Safety & Health Committee:

Chairwoman Kosek - Thank you. We have one ordinance tonight - Ordinance No. 2025-068. Those of us that were in Council in 2021 will remember we talked about SAFER grants. This is the request to submit a SAFER grant application to provide for the hiring of new additional firemen, firefighter paramedics, and the costs related to their salaries. Neal, do you want to give a discussion of what we would be requesting? I believe they will pay...do they pay 2/3rds the first year and 1/3rd the 3rd year? I can't remember the specifics from 2021.

Mr. Jamison - I don't remember. I know it's for a limited period - like two or three years. It's for new hires, and it's an application. It's not like we are going to get this because we are competing with other agencies to get this. Like everything else, we always try and get what we can and then go from there. I don't know the details Kelly; I apologize.

Chairwoman Kosek - My recollection from 2021, when we talked about it, was that it was a competitive process with other cities and other communities. I believe it's a three-year program, but I can't remember the specifics.

Mr. Clark - Twenty-five percent incurred in each of year one and two, and sixty-five percent of the actual cost incurred in the third year.

Chairwoman Kosek - That's what they will give us, or is that what our portion will be? I think that's what our portion will be.

Mr. Clark - That's what our portion will be.

Chairwoman - Right, okay that's what...I knew the third year, but I couldn't remember what the percentage was the first year. We would be agreeing to pay a quarter of the salary the first two years, and then approximately two thirds of the salary the third year if we were to get it. This is a great thing if we can do this to help support the hiring of new firefighters. I would ask that we suspend and adopt this. I don't know if there are any other questions that anybody might have.

(No questions)

Chairwoman Kosek - That's all I have, President Short.

Mr. Short - Thank you, Ms. Kosek.

Recreation & Community Services Committee:

Chairman Kaminski - Yes, we have two ordinances this evening that we are going to go over. Ordinance No. 2025-069, which is an agreement with The Greater Cleveland Senior Softball on a limited basis for 2025, for the use of various baseball fields. Resolution No. 2025-070, which is authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for the Walter F. Ehrnfelt Senior Center restroom renovation project at the recreation center. Both of those will be suspension and adoption. Lastly, I'm also setting a committee date. We are eyeing up Tuesday, July 1, 2025, for the Recreation and Community Services Committee. I have to verify that with Bryan first because he is going to be with us. He is going to show us some of the things that they are planning to do and the renovations that they are doing. We would like to be there in person and see those things. I will communicate that date as soon as I confirm it with Bryan. That concludes my report.

Ms. Kosek - Mr. Kaminski...

Mayor Perciak - I just have one thing to add. You're old enough to play in that senior league. I want to see you out there.

(Laughter)

Mr. Kaminski - Yes, we are talking about starting to play Pickleball. So yes, you may see us out there. Kelly...

Ms. Kosek - I was just asking, are you targeting the morning of July 1st?

Mr. Kaminski - Yes, but again, I have to check with Bryan.

Ms. Kosek - Right, I just wanted to make sure. Thank you.

Mr. Kaminski - Yes, I will try to target the morning, so we can get as many people there as possible. That concludes my report.

Mr. Short - Thank you, Mr. Kaminski.

Planning, Zoning & Engineering Committee:

Chairman Spring - Thank you, President Short, today, we just have one ordinance. Ordinance No. 2025-071; this is an ordinance accepting for recording purposes the lot split/plat for Strongsville Royalton Road, LLC, located at 21452 Royalton Road. This is over at the Vitalia Senior Living Center. It just went through the Planning Commission already, it was approved, and it is here before us today. The recommendation is to suspend and adopt.

Mr. Short - Thank you, Mr. Spring. Are there any questions for Mr. Spring?

(No questions)

Finance Committee:

Chairman Short - For the Finance Committee, we have one ordinance tonight and one resolution. Ordinance No. 2025-072; this is to amend the original appropriation ordinances that we've had on the books to reflect a net increase of \$10,381,672.00 into the budget. The biggest of that is an increase of \$9,915,000.00 in the General Capital Improvement Fund and the Recreation Capital Improvement Fund. This is to add the bond cost, which is going to be used to finance the city's portion of the Energy Efficiency and Building Improvement project plans. Also, the city will receive bond revenue when issued to pay for the repayment. These bonds will be paid back over a period of twenty years out of the Bond Retirement Fund. Another material increase is \$390,320.00. This is the last of the grants received through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and to allocate all the expenses to the ARPA Grant Fund. No more ARPA money, Mr. Dean, huh? Those days are over. Then, there are some miscellaneous expenses and some transfers, but the total net is an increase of \$10,381,672.00 for our 2025 budget. Are there any questions on that ordinance?

(No questions)

Chairman Short - We do have Resolution No. 2025-073; this is prepared every year by the finance director for Cuyahoga County's alternative tax budget. It is an exercise that we do every year and provide to the county. Mr. Dean, you may color on why we do that budget, and why the county requires that.

Mr. Dean - Thank you, Councilman Short. It is a requirement from the county, and some counties waive these, I understand. What we do is...we need to show a need for a collection of our current property tax rates, and it gets approved. It's really an ORC Code that gets approved by the County Budget Commission, and then they certify the rates to us at the end. One of the small changes we have, is removing some of the inside millage to the General Fund from the Bond Retirement Fund. Not a significant amount, but it will be replacing the levy we lost. Overall, our property taxes...we are actually up for the year - \$500,000.00 over last year.

Mayor Perciak - I just want to add that current legislation pending in Columbus wants to invade on this inside millage. I suggest, Mr. President, you speak with Tom Patton and any of your former friends over there about this inside millage - this is significant. If we would lose that, I think that's about what, \$700,000.00, Eric?

Mr. Dean - We get \$5,000,000.00 in inside millage every year. It really all goes to our Debt Service Fund; that's how we pay our debt. Without that money, it would have to come from the General Fund, and that is a lot to make up.

Chairman Short - There's been a lot of discussion about the fact that they are trying, again, on how to balance the state budgets on the backs of local governments.

Mayor Perciak - I had my numbers confused with the Local Government Fund - "mea culpa" (my fault) - that's \$725,000.00.

Chairman Short - This is \$5,000,000.00, so that's significant...that's a significant number.

Mr. Clark - To clarify, property tax year over year is up \$500,000.00, but at risk to lose \$4,700,000.00; just to be clear.

Mr. Dean - That's correct, yes.

Mr. Clark - Okay, thank you.

Mr. Dean - That is if the legislation passes at the state.

Mayor Perciak - Excuse me, they are out there - The Mayor's Association, the Ohio League, and the Cuyahoga County Mayors. Everybody is on the same page with this - putting together charts and graphs and presenting it to the members of the senate. Eric, did I miss anything?

Mr. Dean - No.

Mayor Perciak - I mean, there's a big lobbying effort in Columbus to have that stopped. Our inside millage is one thing, but when you get to a city like Westlake, that's huge. Mayor Clough, there, is really starting to bark really loud. There's all kinds of pending legislation now just to get this done, and we are doing our best. I have driven Eric crazy with getting more reports and numbers in addition to everything else he has on his plate now.

Mr. Kaminski - Will the governor veto that?

Mayor Perciak - I don't know. I spoke to the governor two Sundays ago, and I haven't spoken to him since. I did speak with the Lt. Governor the other night, and we had a long detailed conversation about that.

Chairman Short - Again, the recommendation there is to suspend and adopt for this.

Motion by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski, to approve the Finance Committee meeting minutes of May 27, 2025. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Committee of the Whole:

Chairman Short - Lastly, Ordinance No. 2025-074; this is under Committee of the Whole, and this is just simply to authorize the replacement pages for our Codified Ordinances for the last half of 2024 through this May of 2025. The recommendation there is to suspend and adopt that.

*****Please note – The legislation discussed above on tonight's agenda can be viewed in entirety at: <https://www.strongsville.org/government/city-council/minutes-agendas> by clicking on the June 16, 2025 agenda link. *****

MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL AND REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2025 IN THE MIKE KALINICH SR. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

CALL TO ORDER:

Council President Gordon C. Short called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING:

The Clerk of Council certified that the meeting had been posted in accordance with Ordinance No. 2023-182.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members: Gordon C. Short, James E. Carbone, James A. Kaminski, Kelly A. Kosek, Thomas M. Clark, and Brian M. Spring. Also Present: Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Law Director Neal Jamison, and Finance Director Eric Dean.

Absent: Councilwoman Annmarie P. Roff.

Motion made by Mr. Carbone second by Mr. Kaminski to excuse Councilwoman Annmarie P. Roff for just cause. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

COMMENTS ON MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on June 2, 2025, were approved as submitted. The Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on May 27, 2025, were approved as submitted.

APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

(None)

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Mr. Clark: Thank you, President Short. We have not had an Economic Development Committee meeting since our last Council meeting, but I do want to share that our next Economic Development Committee meeting for June will be on Monday, June 23rd. That's going to be at 1:00 p.m., in the afternoon. It is not going to be in the Council chambers, in fact, it's not going to be in Strongsville. We are going to visit the Polaris Career Center in neighboring Middleburg heights. As many of you know, it serves our schools and it has an opportunity to further serve our businesses and allow Strongsville students, that are going to Strongsville, to get further training.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Mr. Clark (cont'd): There are some exciting new things going on there to enhance, really, manufacturing, which we have been really focused on and allow them

to be a better training and development entity for our businesses, so we are excited. Again, that is the Economic Development Committee meeting for June...on Monday, June 23, 2025 at 1:00 p.m., at the Polaris Career Center. That concludes my report, but I will gladly take any questions.

(No questions)

Mr. Short - Thank you, Mr. Clark.

BUILDING AND UTILITIES – Ms. Roff:

(No report)

PUBLIC SERVICE AND CONSERVATION – Ms. Roff:

Mr. Short - In Councilwoman Roff's absence, I will take this tonight. We have one ordinance - Ordinance No. 2025-067; this is just to authorize the sale of internet auction of obsolete equipment no longer needed by the service department. It's a 2003 New Holland Wheel Loader that is, basically, obsolete and really can't get parts for anymore. The recommendation there is to suspend and adopt, any questions?

(No questions)

PUBLIC SAFETY & HEALTH – Ms. Kosek: First, I want to thank Chief O'Deens and Director Goss for coming to the Public Safety and Health meeting that we just had. We had a very robust discussion about e-Bike safety. I'm looking forward to seeing some support for keeping our kids safe on that issue. Hopefully, we will have some legislation to review for the July 14th meeting. We do have one ordinance on tonight's agenda. Ordinance No. 2025-068; this is a request to approve the filing of an application for a SAFER Grant, which would allow us to hire new additional firefighter/paramedics related to their salary costs. This is an application and it's a competitive process with communities all over the U.S. - whether we get this is yet to be determined. If we were to be awarded it, we would be required to contribute 25% of the costs incurred by the new hires for the 1st and 2nd years of the grant and then 65% of the costs incurred in the 3rd year. I really appreciate the administration and the safety forces, particularly the firefighters going to get this grant. It would be a great thing if we were able to get this for the city. I would ask that we suspend and adopt this ordinance tonight. I will take any questions if anyone has any.

(No questions)

Ms. Kosek - Hearing none, I will throw it back to you President Short.

Mr. Short - Thank you, Ms. Kosek.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY – Ms. Kosek:

(No questions)

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES – Mr. Kaminski: Alright, we have an ordinance and a resolution this evening. Ordinance No. 2025-069; this is authorizing the Mayor to enter into

a nonexclusive rental agreement with The Greater Cleveland Senior Softball on a limited basis for 2025. That's obviously to use the baseball fields within the city of Strongsville. The recommendation is suspension and adoption on that. Also, there's a resolution (Resolution No. 2025-070) authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for the senior center restroom renovations, which they want to get that started. The recommendation is suspension and adoption. That concludes my report. If there are any questions, I'll be happy to take them.

(No questions)

PLANNING, ZONING AND ENGINEERING – Mr. Spring: Thank you, President Short. Tonight, we just have one ordinance. Ordinance No. 2025-071; this is an ordinance accepting for recording purposes the lot split/subdivision plat for Strongsville Royalton Road, LLC at 21452 Royalton Road. The Planning Commission approved this back on May 29, 2025. The recommendation is to suspend and adopt. If there are no questions...

Ms. Kosek - If I may, I just want to point out that I know some of us have received a notice of a petition that is going around the city regarding the hearing that we will have on July 14th. There are hundreds of signatures on it. I want to make sure that anyone who is watching at home knows that we are having a public hearing regarding the rezoning adjacent to Ledgewood on July 14, 2025. Are we starting at 6:00 p.m.?

Mr. Spring - Yes, 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Kosek - Okay, I just want to make that we are getting that information out. It's not going to be a normally scheduled Council meeting. That's all I wanted to say.

Ms. Kaminski - Yes, and letters are going out. Aimee, what, this week on that?

Ms. Pientka - Monday, the residents within 500 feet of the property will receive notice of the public hearing.

Mr. Short - Of course, it will be posted...

Ms. Pientka - For property owners...I should not just say residents. The property owners within 500 feet will receive notice of the public hearing.

Mr. Short - Obviously, we will post the week before like we do in accordance with the meeting...with our regular meeting ordinances?

Ms. Pientka - Yes, correct.

Mr. Short - Okay, thank you. Any other questions for Mr. Spring?

(No questions)

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

SCHOOL BOARD – Mr. Carbone: Yes, there is a lot of movement within our Strongsville City Schools. We know that Sharon Kilbane, one of our board members, had resigned about a month ago and Kevin Griffin will be the replacement. That replacement is going to be until the end of the year just to fill that gap. Two people did pull petitions to run for that position so, Mr. Griffin is just going to fill that gap. I do know Mr. Griffin, his wife, and his children are very involved in the city - looks like that was a good choice. Also, Denny Ziegler, our athletic director, is moving on to Walsh Jesuit High School, and his replacement is going to be one of our own, Jason Kepler, who was with the City of Strongsville. Now, he is going to be moving up, and currently they are conducting interviews for the assistant position. That will be all.

Mr. Short - Any questions for Mr. Carbone?

(No questions)

SOUTHWEST GENERAL HEALTH SYSTEM – Mr. Short:

(No report)

FINANCE – Mr. Short: We do have an ordinance and a resolution tonight. First, is Ordinance No. 2025-072; this is to amend our budget for the 2025 fiscal year for reflecting a net increase of \$10,381,672.00. The material changes are one of the...is the \$9,915,000.00 in regards to the General Capital Improvement Fund and Recreational Capital Improvement Fund. In regards to a bond cost associated with the Energy Efficiency and Building Improvement project; these bonds will be issued. We paid out over a period of 20 years from the Bond Retirement Fund. Also, a significant material change is an increase of \$390,320.00 in the Local Fiscal Recover Fund, which is the last of the grant money from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and to allocate all the expenses to the ARPA Grant Fund. That will be the last from those programs. The recommendation there is to suspend and adopt. Likewise, we have Resolution No. 2025-073; this is just to adopt the alternative tax budget information for the city to be submitted to the county for their approval. This is done every year, as our Finance Director, Mr. Dean, said in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code (ORC). Since Cuyahoga County does not waive this requirement, we will do it again. The recommendation there is to suspend and adopt. Are there any questions on that?

(No questions)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - Mr. Short: We do have one ordinance - Ordinance No. 2025 - 074; this is just to replace the...update the pages for our Codified Ordinances from late 2024 through May of 2025. There recommendation there is to suspend and adopt, any questions?

(No questions)

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR, DIRECTORS OF DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER OFFICERS:

MAYOR PERCIAK: Thank you, Mr. President. Just a quick short note that the Rib Burn-Off is beginning on Thursday, June 19th, and on Friday, June 20th. The Fireworks will be Friday evening at 10:00 p.m....not Saturday. The Rib Burn-Off will conclude on Saturday, the 21st. I want to thank The City Club again for sponsoring and helping our community come together for another happy event. As most of you know, when the community was building the splash pad in our Town Center, it was The City Club that made a very generous donation towards that. If I recall from memory, it was about \$100,000.00. I would encourage everybody to please support The City Club and their efforts, because it only benefits our community. That ends my report, Mr. President.

Mr. Short - Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I'm just reminding everyone that the Rib Burn-Off is a great one. It may not be the biggest, but it's the best.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – Mr. Dean: Thank you, Council President. I hereby certify that funds will be made available for all ordinances and resolutions on tonight's agenda requiring certification of funding, thank you.

Mr. Short - Thank you, Mr. Dean.

LAW DEPARTMENT – Mr. Jamison: All ordinances and resolutions are in proper legal form. That concludes my report.

Mr. Short - Thank you.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Bonnie Thoennes, 9407 Brushwood Lane, Strongsville, OH 44136: Thank you for letting me finish my comment. My name is Bonnie Thoennes, 9407 Brushwood Lane. I came here because it seems like nobody is representing the residents from Strongsville and Columbus. I know what's going on with all this inside millage. First, was tax relief or tax cuts based on the over 30%. Now, it's the inside millage, but nobody is representing the residents...the residents that are actually experiencing the unfair reappraisals. The biggest problem is not the rates; it's not...as someone says, "It pays the same rate, but it's not their problem." Let me give you an example. The example that I printed last time for you; that was the one that says, "We are all in it together." It's by one of the...I'm not going to say who he is, but he is the one (who is) in the leadership of this community. Everyone is talking about this unfair property tax, but in reality, it's the high property tax from any result of a reappraisal. Here is the definition of regressive assessment: "Regressive assessments can result in unfair distribution of the property tax burden when low value homes are over-assessed. Their owners are effectively overtaxed, while owners of high-value properties, who are underassessed, pay less than their fair share. This can place a strain on financially vulnerable residents, and shift the tax burden to low-income homeowners." I provided the examples last time, and those are not isolated cases. I can print thousands, but my printer won't handle that, and I don't want to pay all that money for the ribbons. I would like to use today that one example that I provided. I'm not going to use the last name, but it's a resident that is 100 years old, lives in a home that was built in 1953, a 1424 sq. ft. home, one bedroom, one bathroom, 2-car detached garage, and no home improvements. Yet, her home value increased by 48.5%, which resulted in a \$551.00 increase in property tax. That resident has lived already 70 years in Strongsville and, tax-wise has supported multiple generations of students - about 5.8 generations. We wish her well, but she should not be paying those high property tax increases.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (cont'd):

Ms. Theonnes (cont'd) - When is she going to get the property tax break that many of you on this Council, and many of the leaders of this community receive? On the other hand, the other resident that is living in a 2019 home, has two children in (Strongsville) schools, a 2966 sq. ft. home, is very well to do, is able and capable; but yet, instead of contributing to the children's education by paying more property tax, I understand it's the appraisal which has to be fixed, he is actually getting a reduction of \$1,091.00. Here is a 100-year-old person who is paying \$551.00 more; and with the levy, it would be nine hundred and something. This (other) person is getting a thousand-dollar reduction. The last three appraisals he is actually getting a reduction more and more every time. If you look at his property history...okay, I already said that. Now, for Strongsville, people's spending since 2019, went up over \$2500.00. All these people that have children in school, and many of you have that, your property...actually, except one of you, went up. The rest of you got the reduction because the levy did not pass. It's still a reduction where this person is not getting a reduction - it's \$551.00 extra, and that's a Social Security person. Five hundred and fifty dollars - that's a lot of money, and that is every year now. With the new bond levy and with the new operation levy, these people are going to pay a lot of money. There is no representation in Columbus. Mr. Patton presented one option, but he didn't present any facts or anything; it was actually nothing. I listened to that testimony. Mr. Dovilla didn't even mention after the 11th...June 11th, when the 96th bill was approved. Nobody mentioned anything except, "Hooray" for the Brown's Stadium - nothing for the residents. Now, Cuyahoga County, nobody represents us there because the representative that we have...what that person told me, is that it's up to Columbus. Columbus is not doing anything about it. They are saying that they even want to eliminate the income tax. They will make us pay based on local tax and the property tax.

Mr. Short - If you can give us your conclusions.

Ms. Theonnes - Yes, the conclusion...my conclusion was that people elect representatives and so far, they are not doing anything. Until people look into this unfair tax system, things are not going to change...that's my...

Mr. Short - I would continue to have you, and also the residents, call Representative Dovilla and State Senator Patton in Columbus because that's where the (unintelligible) will probably...

Ms. Theonnes - I need to call?

Mr. Short - And others...you and others call them.

Ms. Theonnes - Who are my others? Who am I going to talk to?

Mr. Short - Any others who support what you are trying to do to let your voice be heard to Representative Dovilla and State Senator Patton.

Ms. Theonnes - I'm trying to make my voice be heard here, so you can represent us in the city. Then, you can go to Cuyahoga, and Cuyahoga can represent us there. I can't do anything about it. I can go and scream, and I can use my lungs and scream, but nothing is going to get changed. Nothing is going to get done. Someone important like you, that are elected officials, should make the difference, not me. I'm coming here to you because people elected you to make a difference.

Mr. Short - We certainly can talk to them, but when they hear from their constituents that tends to help them look at issues in a different way.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (cont'd):

Ms. Theonnes - Mr. Short...

Mr. Short - We can talk afterwards, but...

Ms. Theonnes - Mr. Short, do you know how many people talked to them already? Do you see that anything was even mentioned? Nothing - Mr. Dovilla didn't mention anything. I don't see me changing anything because there is actual property...all these people want to abolish property tax. All these people are notifying them, and there is nothing really that they bring up.

Mr. Short - Thank you.

Ms. Theonnes - I would like you to just listen because this is not the only thing I will be coming...because I would like...I have gotten educated in this area, and I have been listening for the last seven years, and it's very surprising to me. Please don't think that we don't want to pay property tax. We are older...I mean, not much older than you, but we are older, and we don't have children in school. We do want to pay property tax, but we don't want our property to be over-assessed and taxed on something that we don't really...we can't really...and we don't want to move out of our homes, that's for sure. Thank you very much for listening.

Mr. Short - Thank you.

Matthew Fanous, 22434 Valleybrook Lane, Strongsville, OH. 44149: My name is Matthew Fanous, and I live on 22434 Valleybrook Lane. Over the past couple of years, I personally noticed a significant increase in the use of tobacco products, especially, vapes, snus, and other smokeless options among students at both the middle school and high school levels here in Strongsville. It's become common to see these children using these products in bathrooms, classrooms, and even (at) school events. This trend is deeply concerning because these products are not only addictive, but are also being marketed in ways to appeal youth with flavors, packaging, and social media presence. Given this growing issue, I wanted to ask: How can the Strongsville City Council currently prioritize youth health and prevention efforts; especially, when it comes to substance use like tobacco and vaping? Are there existing initiatives or strategic goals in place that address youth well-being? If so, how might a tobacco retail licensing policy align with our support for these goals? Do you see tobacco retail licensing as a potential tool the city could use to help prevent underage access and reduce tobacco-related harm in our schools and community?

Mr. Short - Again, this isn't a question-and-answer session, but we will look into that. Also, I would recommend, if you haven't spoken to the school board as far as the issues in the schools...actually, a school board member is here tonight to address them about the issue as well. It's always something we can look into and talk with our law department and our police on what is being done for enforcement in those areas.

Mr. Fanous - Thank you so much.

Mr. Short - Thank you.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Ordinance No. 2025-067 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE BY INTERNET AUCTION, OF CERTAIN OBSOLETE PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE BY THE CITY'S SERVICE DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Carbone to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. Kaminski. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-067 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2025-068 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2024 STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (SAFER) FUNDS GRANT PROGRAM, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR HIRING OF NEW, ADDITIONAL FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDICS AND/OR THE COSTS RELATED TO SALARIES AND ACTUAL BENEFITS FOR THE CITY'S FIRE DEPARTMENT; AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Carbone to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. Kaminski. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-068 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2025-069 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A NON-EXCLUSIVE RENTAL/OCCUPANCY AGREEMENT WITH THE GREATER CLEVELAND SENIORS SOFTBALL ON A LIMITED BASIS FOR 2025, FOR THE USE OF VARIOUS BASEBALL FIELDS IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Carbone to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. Kaminski. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-069 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Resolution No. 2025-070 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE EHRNFELT SENIOR CENTER RESTROOM RENOVATIONS PROJECT AT THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE WALTER F. EHRNFELT RECREATION & SENIOR CENTER FACILITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Carbone to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. Kaminski. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2025-070 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2025-071 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING FOR RECORDING PURPOSES THE LOT SPLIT/SUBDIVISION PLAT OF OH STRONGSVILLE ROYALTON RD., LLC FOR PERMANENT PARCEL NO. 392-14-010, LOCATED AT 21452 ROYALTON ROAD, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Carbone to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. Kaminski. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-070 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2025-072 by Mayor Thomas P. Perciak. AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, OHIO, FOR THE YEAR 2025 AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2025-028.

Motion by Mr. Carbone to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. Kaminski. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-072 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2025-073 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION ADOPTING ALTERNATIVE TAX BUDGET INFORMATION FOR THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, OHIO FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Carbone to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. Kaminski. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2025-073 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2025-074 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY FOR THE LAST HALF OF 2024 AND THROUGH MAY, 2025, REPEALING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Carbone to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. Kaminski. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-074 ADOPTED.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

Application for Permit: NEW - D5: To: First Watch Restaurants Inc., 18400 Royalton Road Strongsville, Ohio 44136 (Responses must be postmarked no later than 06/27/2025).

Motion by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski to file a conditional objection to the application for permit based upon the applicant's lack of compliance with the City's Building, Health and/or Safety Codes; provided that when and if compliance is confirmed by the Building Department, the Clerk will withdraw the objection in Columbus. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

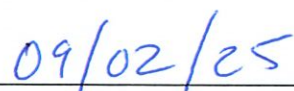
Council Designation of Assistant Finance Director, Marty Healy, as Credit Compliance Officer.

Motion by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski to designate Assistant Finance Director, Marty Healy as the Credit and Compliance Officer for the City of Strongsville. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before this Council, President Short adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.


Marialena Beach
Council Secretary


Date